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Lebanon

A Lebanese who hijacked a Middle East Airlines plane en route from Beirut to Jeddah surrendered to the Saudi authorities after the airliner landed at Jeddah airport, the Saudi Defense and Aviation Ministry announced in a statement carried by SPA. The hijacker had demanded a large sum of money to support the Lebanese national resistance's activities in southern Lebanon, Beirut radio noted.

As for the situation in Sidon, Beirut radio reported renewed shelling of 'Ayn al-Hulwah and the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said 25 people were killed or injured by the bombardment, which emanated from Phalangist artillery emplacements nearby. A PLO statement broadcast by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed that Palestinian fighters and their Lebanese allies, including Lebanese Army units, have checked Phalangist attempts to advance on the two Palestinian refugee camps, where losses reached 46 killed and 82 wounded by noon on 31 March.

Lebanese military sources cited by Beirut radio subsequently announced that a Lebanese Army battalion equipped with rockets and modern vehicles will reinforce the 12th Brigade at Sidon in an attempt to eliminate the contact lines and impose security. The issue of reinforcing the Army in the south was discussed during Army Commander General Michel 'Awn's 1 April meeting with Syrian military officials in Damascus, the radio noted. President Amin al-Jumayyil had earlier received a Syrian presidential envoy in B'abda, according to the radio. Meanwhile, Phalangist leader Elie Karamah said his party has taken action to reach an understanding with President al-Jumayyil and to negotiate with Syria, Voice of Lebanon radio reported.

In developments arising from the recent spate of kidnappings, Voice of Lebanon radio held the "Jundallah" group responsible for the murder of an abducted Netherlands priest who was found dead in the Ba'labakk area on 1 April. A French official kidnapped in Tripoli on 24 March was released unharmed on 2 April, according to a French Embassy announcement cited by the radio.

Sudan

During a 31 March State Security Service raid on Khartoum University 17 "Communists and Ba'thists" were arrested for holding anti-government meetings and planning counterrevolutionary acts, according to a State Security statement cited by SUNA. In another report the SSU organizational secretary announced that "a number" of trade union leaders were detained to forestall more disturbances, MENA reported. However, the Sudanese doctor's union called for a 3 April demonstration to protest the arrest of the union's leader and urged trade unions and political groups to organize a "civil disobedience" campaign to overthrow President Ja'far Numayri's regime, AFP disclosed. In a related development, Radio Monte Carlo noted that a group of Sudanese officers calling themselves the "free officers' group" invited the Sudanese people to stage a general strike and demonstrate against Numayri. Meanwhile, the acting SSU secretary general announced that a "great political demonstration" will be held on 2 April in Khartoum, Omdurman radio reported.

Pakistan

Eight leaders of Movement for Restoration of Democracy political parties were released in Punjab on 28 March, according to the paper *DAWN*.

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ANSA Cites Italian TV Interview With Gandhi

AU301541 Rome ANSA in English 1530 GMT 30 Mar 85

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, March 30 — The Pakistan leadership's behavior with respect to Indira Gandhi's assassination and funeral fueled hopes in New Delhi that relations between the two countries may change for the better, according to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

His assessment of the prospects for improving relations with Pakistan will be aired later today in an exclusive interview (?granted) to Italy's state-run television network, RAI.

Gandhi granted that the Soviets should pull out of Afghanistan, but he argued that they could not do so until Pakistan stopped interfering in Afghanistan's affairs.

India was described as a "good friend" of the Soviet Union, "which helped us when we were in need and no one else was willing to pitch in".

But India's major trade partner is still the United States, he stressed.

The Indian Government leader voiced a desire to establish a "more open" relationship with Europe. "Sometimes we get the impression that the aid we receive from Europe is tied up to too many conditions", he commented.

"What we are really looking for", Gandi concluded, "is the specialized technology that you have in Europe, but there appear to be too many restrictions".

Gandhi Sends Greetings to PRC's Zhao Ziyang

BK011625 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1446 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi has sent the following message to His Excellency Mr Zhao Ziyang, premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China, on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and China:

"On behalf of the government and people of India and on my own behalf I extend to you and through you to the government and people of China felicitations and good wishes on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries.

"China and India are neighbours, and both are developing countries with a large population and great future potential. In the immense and varied tasks that we face, there are many areas in which we can cooperate to mutual benefit.

"It is our earnest hope that, through our joint efforts, all outstanding problems between us can be solved consistent with the five principles of peaceful coexistence, thereby enabling our two peoples to resume and consolidate their longstanding historical ties.

"I take this opportunity, excellency, to convey assurances of my highest consideration."

In a message to Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi, Mr Zhao Ziyang, premier of the State Council of the People Republic of China stated that friendship between the Chinese and Indian people is deep rooted. India is one of first countries to establish diplomatic relations with China. The five principles of peaceful coexistence have become not only a good foundation for development of Sino-Indian friendly and good neighbouring relations but also basic norms governing relations between states. The Chinese leader also noted that, in recent years, relations between the two countries have made marked improvement and progress. For China and India to be friendly conforms to the fundamental interests of our two peoples and important factor making for peace in Asia and the world in days to come Sino-Indian relations will steadily grow in strength and outstanding issues sure to be resolved. [sentence as received]

Planning Minister Stresses Cooperation With PRC

BK011655 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] At a function in New Delhi, the planning minister and former ambassador to China, Mr K.R. Narayanan, said that India and China have an identical approach on the global problems like world peace, disarmament, and progress of developing countries. He stressed the need to improve bilateral relations.

The Chinese ambassador to India, Mr Li Lianging, said that the two countries should expand cooperation in the economic, trade, scientific, technological, cultural and other fields.

Foreign Ministry Report on Pakistan, Sri Lanka

BK011614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] The annual report of the Ministry of External Affairs says Pakistan's deep involvement in Punjab developments and its help and encouragement to terrorism and hijacking caused a setback to the progress in the Indo-Pakistan bilateral relations.

India was constrained to call off the foreign secretary level talks last July because Islamabad's intentions remained unclear in the wake of its support to terrorists.

The report, released in New Delhi today, also expressed India's deep concern at the continued violence against Tamils in Sri Lanka, the induction of foreign security and intelligence organizations, and Colombo's baseless accusations about Indian support to the so-called Tamil militants.

Bhandari To Visit Islamabad for Talks 4-6 Apr

BK011616 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 1 Apr 85

[Text] It was officially confirmed in New Delhi today that the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, will be visiting Islama-

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Karmal Speaks at Revolutionary Council Session

LD032144 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1630 GMT 29 Mar 85

["Text" of opening speech by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, at the 20 March session of the Revolutionary Council — announcer read]

[Text] Esteemed members of the Revolutionary Council: Today, the last day of the year, we have come together in the regular session of the DRA Revolutionary Council to sum up the results of the implementation of the state plan and budget for the year 1363 [ending 20 March 85] and to discuss the draft of the plan and budget for the year 1364. This concluding year was the 7th year of the victorious march of the April Revolution and the unswerving realization of fundamental transformations which lead from backwardness to social, economic, and cultural progress. In this year, the people of Afghanistan celebrated the 20th founding anniversary of the PDPA, this leading force of the society and the state. The PDPA, which now has 134,000 of the best sons of our people in its ranks, is the manifestation of the will and interests of the workers, peasants, and intelligentsia and all workers and national, democratic forces, and is the consistent defender of the true interests of all the people.

In the past year, our party's links with the workers and with large masses of people were strengthened and expanded. The party's credibility among the fraternal progressive workers and democratic parties of Europe, Asia, Africa, and Latin America was enhanced. The credibility and prestige of the DRA was enhanced and consolidated in the international arena and in the Nonaligned Movement.

The DRA, with strong determination, struggles for the peace, social progress, freedom, and independence of people who struggle against imperialist aggression. In the year 1363, fraternal relations, good understanding, and all-around cooperation between our country and the USSR, between our parties, governments, and peoples were further strengthened and became more profound. Our peoples marked the 64th anniversary of the establishment of Afghan-Soviet diplomatic relations and the sixth anniversary of the signing of the Friendship, Good-neighborliness, and Cooperation Treaty between the DRA and the USSR. The Afghan-Soviet peoples' friendship, which has successfully passed the test of time, shows to all the world the example of the new type of internationalist relations that are based on the principles of Leninism, peace, equality, and mutual respect. Our party and government consistently support all initiatives and efforts of the Soviet Union for strengthening peace all over the world, eliminating the threat of nuclear war, and strengthening the security of the peoples.

During the year 1363, our peace-loving and democratic state continued its active foreign policy, the aim of which is to establish friendly relations with the neighboring countries. The DRA Government once again renewed its persistent inviation to Pakistan and Iran on normalization of relations based on mutual respect to national sovereignty, good-neighborliness, and nonintervention in the internal affairs of one another, as well as prevention of armed and other hostile activities from their territories against one another. We positively assess the talks with Pakistan in Geneva through the representative of the UN secretary general. It is not our fault that until now the three previous rounds of talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan have not achieved a specific agreement. But the periodical round of talks scheduled for mid-February was postponed by the Pakistani regime. We, as before, sincerely and honestly desire the political solution of problems concerning the situation around Afghanistan. We are waiting for a judicious, objective, and common sense approach on the part of Pakistan for attaining mutually accepted agreement.

It is known to all the world that the present tension around Afghanistan has been created as a result of the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism, its NATO allies, Chinese hegemonism, Pakistani militarism, and Iranian reactionaries. This is the seventh year of undeclared war against the DRA, which is instigated and supported by the United States and China. During these 7 years, terrorist bands who have learned terrorism, plundering, and sabotage from terrorist American, Chinese, Israeli and Pakistani instructors, have been sent to our sacred territory from Pakistan. Imperialist mercenaries are being armed with NATO and Chinese weapons, including artillery, missile launchers, and missiles. They attack state institutions, schools, hospitals, and mosques. They kill innocent inhabitants of villages, and do not show mercy to elderly people, women, and children. Bloody attacks and aggression by the enemy bands are also taking place from Iranian territory.

During 1363 our Armed Forces carried out a number of successful combat operations against the armed bands. A large number of the nests of the plunderers were destroyed.

Thousands of patriots, who have voluntarily joined the revolution defense groups, tribal and regional forces, civil and self defense detachments in residential areas, together with the Army, Sarandoy and KHAD [State Information Services], are going ahead in the heroic struggle against the counterrevolutionary bands. Despite all efforts by U.S. imperialists and their allies and servants, militarists, and reactionaries of the region to deny the gains of the April Revolution and despite their huge financial, technical, and military assistance to counterrevolutionary forces, all their adventurist actions will be doomed to defeat. The revolutionary process is continuously growing. People's power in the capital and localities is strengthening. Unity of national patriotic forces grows stronger. The social and economic situation in the country is more stable. Despite destruction by mercenary bands and damage caused to agricultural and industrial institutions, irrigation projects, electricity stations, bridges, roads, and communication lines, inflicting heavy material loss to the country, the enemies will never succeed in disrupting our economy.

The national economy grows unswervingly. In the year 1363, the total volume of Gross National Product and national income increased considerably compared to 1357 [year beginning 21 March 1978]. Land and water reform, now extended to the remote parts of the country, is being continuously realized. In the year 1363, more than 6,000 landless peasant families became land owners. Some 900 hectares of new land have been irrigated for the first time and the irrigation of 11,000 hectares, previously poorly irrigated, has been improved. Some 40 new peasantry

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Karmal Message Marks Hungary's Independence

LD041305 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul April 3, BAKHTAR: Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA, as well as Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand have sent a congratulatory message to Janos Kadar, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Socialist Party of Hungary, Pal Losonczi, president of the State Council and Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic on the occasion of the 40th independence anniversary of that country.

The message, while expressing hope for further development and construction of a blossoming socialist society under the leadership of the Workers' Socialist Party of Hungary, points to the fraternal and unshakable relations and cooperation between the two countries which will be in the interest of the peoples of the two countries and in the interest of peace and security in the world.

Soviet General Reported Killed in Kabul

HK041408 Hong Kong AFP in English 1403 GMT 4 Apr 85

[Text] New Delhi, April 4 (AFP) — A Soviet general and at least two of his bodyguards have died in a bomb explosion in Kabul, an Afghan immigrant leader said here today.

The general, who was not identified, and two or three of his bodyguards died in a blast in the Afghan capital's Charahi Torabaz District last week, (Muhammed Maiwand) said.

His body was flown to Moscow after Soviet and Afghan authorities closed the airport to all other traffic for a whole day, said Mr (Maiwand), quoting an Afghan eyewitness who flew into the Indian capital shortly afterwards.

Diplomatic sources here could not confirm the report.

Mr (Maiwand), the New Delhi spokesman for the Afghan mujahidin (freedom fighters), also reported at least two other bomb explosions in Kabul during the past 10 days.

Two Soviet soldiers were killed in one of the blasts while casualties in the other were not known, he said.

Diplomats in Kabul Visit Nangarhar Province

GF051146 Kabul in English to South Asia 0900 GMT 5 Apr 85

[Text] According to the program schedule for the DRA Ministry of Foreign Affairs, ambassadors and charge d'affaires of diplomatic missions of a number of foreign countries in Kabul visited Jalalabad city last week. The team included ambassadors of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, Republic of Cuba, CSSR, GDR, Hungarian People's Republic, Republic of Iraq; secretary of Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah's Popular Bureau; ambassadors of the Mongolian People's Republic, Polish People's Republic; minister-counselor of the embassy of the Soviet Union; counselor of the Republic of India; charge d'affaires of the Republic of Austria, Indonesia, the PLO and SRV.

The team of foreign diplomatic corps was accompanied by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Khodadad (Bashawal), the adviser of the Foreign Ministry Muhammad Sakhi Daneshju, and representative of the protocol department of the ministry. Upon arrival the team (?composed) of diplomats was welcomed at Jalalabad airport by the secretary of Nangarhar Provincial party committee and governor and police commander of the province. Later the team went to the headquarters of the eastern zone and was presented a detailed report concerning the economic and political situation of the province by the assistant secretary of the provincial party committee. Afterward, the team toured around the city and visited the Nangarhar university and installations of the (?oldest) processing factory, a Hydel farm and a [word indistinct] estate and the Afghan-Soviet friendship chamber. The team was given a history of the nation by the concerned authority. The team as well attended the festival of the season being held in the city with the participation of thousands of residents of Jalalabad and its suburbs.

Jalalabad residents accorded a warm welcome and presented bouquets to the diplomats. During their visit to the Hydel farm of Nangarhar Province development project, the team planted a sapling as a token of friendship and signed the book of their impressions. The diplomats laid floral wreaths on the monuments of the martyrs of the revolution. The team attended the luncheon reception hosted by the chief of the eastern zone and the governor of Nangarhar. After spending a night in Jalalabad, the diplomats returned to Kabul and the diplomats called the [word indistinct] and the situation of the region, that the gains of the revolution and its progress as useful and interesting.

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Sudan

"President" Ja'far Numayri, in a letter to Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab reported by MENA, stated that he "understands the motives" that prompted Al-Dhahab to take power and wishes him success in his new responsibility. Former Numayri advisers and SSU officials have been detained in Sudan, according to the agency. Meanwhile, Siwar al-Dhahab discussed "urgent issues" during a meeting with government officials, SUNA reported. Later, the trade unions issued a statement transmitted by the agency announcing an end to the "general political strike" and calling on trade union organizations to increase production.

In a separate development, Libya's Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi congratulated Siwar Al-Dhahab on the "transformation" that has taken place, and stressed Libya's desire to develop bilateral relations, Omdurman radio reported.

Lebanon

The Israeli Air Force attacked a Palestinian "terrorist" base near Al-Damur early on 9 April, Jerusalem radio announced. The pilots reported "accurate hits" on their targets, which included a command post belonging to the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front (PPSF), a faction that opposes PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Lebanese security sources cited by Voice of Lebanon radio said the PPSF center was completely destroyed by the attack, which killed 10 Palestinians and wounded 2 Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) gunmen. The PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio stated that a PSP center was destroyed in the raid.

In earlier military developments, Beirut radio reported further shelling in the Sidon area and the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio said over 20 people were killed or injured in the fighting. The latter source also claimed that the Lebanese Army thwarted an "attempted Israeli sea landing" near Sidon.

Reporting on the recent meeting between Israeli officials and UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart, Israel's *HA'ARETZ* disclosed that the Israelis expressed willingness to renew the Al-Naqurah talks with Lebanon. As for the security zone that Israel intends to maintain in the south, military sources cited by Jerusalem radio said that pro-Israeli villages north of the line currently envisaged will be allowed to join the zone. Israel will also try to ensure that Lebanese Christians have access from Jazzin to the border.

Syria

Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm's new cabinet, listed in a presidential decree broadcast by Damascus television, contains a number of new appointments including Interior Minister Muhammad Ghabbash, who replaces Major General Nasir al-Din Nasir. Mahmud Qaddur and Salim Yasin are listed as deputy prime ministers for services affairs and economic affairs, while Qahtan al-Suyufi is the new finance minister.

Israel

Egyptian Talks — Political sources told *DAVAR* that a summit between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak may take place in a few weeks and the paper noted that, if convened, the summit may decide on a "package deal" in which Egypt would return its ambassador to Israel and improve commercial and tourism relations in exchange for Israel transferring the Tabah dispute to international arbitration. In another report, Jerusalem radio announced that Minister 'Ezer Weizman will visit Egypt next week for "private" talks with Mubarak.

IDF Soldier's Murder — An IDF soldier who hitched a ride inside the green line was kidnapped and murdered by "terrorists," Jerusalem television reported. The incident is similar to several previous murders of hitchhiking soldiers.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraq deployed toxic chemical weapons containing mustard and nerve gases in the Badr operational area on 8 April, IRNA reported. Iran's War Information Headquarters, in a statement cited by the agency, urged UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to send a delegation to "record this new crime." Meanwhile, during a meeting with Perez de Cuellar, Iraqi President Saddam Husayn stressed Iraq's abidance by international law and its readiness to resolve the war with Iran according to these laws, Voice of the Masses radio noted.

Western Sahara

Saharan forces bombarded Moroccan positions 1-4 April inflicting 43 casualties, Algiers radio reported. An APS commentary welcomed the "realistic perspective" and "reorientation" of U.S. policy demonstrated in recent U.S. Congress recommendations on the Saharan conflict.

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Sudan

Armed Forces Commander in Chief General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab announced the formation of a 15-member "Transitional Military Council" in a statement broadcast by Omdurman radio. The council, headed by himself as chairman, will rule the country for a transitional period. Meanwhile, SUNA reported that Siwar al-Dhahab dismissed the chief justice, and AFP disclosed that the military regime has released imprisoned Muslim Brotherhood leader Hasan al-Turaybi.

Reacting to the new military administration, Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) Commander in Chief John Garang de Mabior stated in an address carried by the clandestine SPLA radio that there is "no difference" between the new and old regimes and that the people should "seize" power from the generals. Garang also gave Siwar al-Dhahab a 1-week deadline within which to establish civilian rule, announcing that the SPLA will maintain a cease-fire within this period except for attacks against "moving military targets." Garang also urged workers and students to continue their strikes.

As for the economic problems facing the new regime, an Armed Forces General Command statement carried by Omdurman radio announced moves to strengthen the Higher National Committee for Containing the Effects of Disaster, Drought, and Desertification. Commenting on the U.S. decision to extend financial aid, an "authorized source" in the General Command told SUNA that the U.S. move was a result of the General Command's foreign policy statement.

In diplomatic developments, SUNA cited a congratulatory phone call from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to Siwar al-Dhahab. In Riyadh, Saudi King Fahd met with a visiting Sudanese envoy, SPA noted.

Lebanon

Two IDF soldiers were killed in a suicide car-bomb attack near Batir, north of Jazzin, Jerusalem radio announced. The young woman driving the car detonated the bomb at an IDF roadblock. A Lebanese National Resistance Front statement cited by Beirut radio claimed that the bomb caused "about 50" Israeli casualties and noted that the woman responsible was a member of the National Social Party.

In another development, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that violent clashes resumed in the Sidon area early on 10 April. A conference of Christian leaders had earlier appealed for an immediate end to the Sidon fighting in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio. The conference, which was hosted by the Maronite patriarch in Bkirki, also reaffirmed Lebanon's close relations with Syria and called for a national Islamic-Christian conference to help save the homeland. However, Lebanese Forces Commander Fu'ad Abu Nadir criticized the conference statement in remarks cited by the Voice of Lebanon, asserting that it does not express all the aspirations of the Christian community and that the conferees did not represent the "comprehensive and effective Christian base." On the Muslim side, Education and Labor Minister Salim al-Huss welcomed "several positive points" contained in the Christian conference statement, according to Beirut radio.

Israel-Egypt Summit

A summit meeting between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will be held in Cairo the middle of May, Jerusalem television reported.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes carried out "destructive raids" against Sar-e Pol-e Zahab and Gilan-e Gharb the evening of 9 April and hit a "large maritime target" near Khark Island earlier that day, according to an Iraqi military communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. The communique also said Iranian artillery shelled Al-Qurnah, Al-Shihabi, and Chuman. Meanwhile, an Iranian military communique reported by IRNA announced that Iraq dropped chemical bombs on Iranian positions in the southern fronts the morning of 9 April. In a statement prior to his departure from Baghdad, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar said that while he will continue his efforts to solve the Gulf war the gap between Iran and Iraq's positions "is still large," INA reported.

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Ulema High Council on Rebels, Iranian Interference

LD0921 17 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 9 Apr 85

[Announcement of the High Council of Ulema and religious leaders of the DRA]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. O believers, enter the peace, all of you, and follow not the steps of Satan; he is a manifest foe to you. But if you slip, after the clear signs have come to you, know then that God is almighty, all-wise. [Koranic verse]

In belief in and on the basis of the aforementioned Koranic verse the High Council of Ulema and religious leaders of the DRA, on behalf of all religious leaders of the DRA including teachers of religious education and theology schools, preachers and imams of mosques and takia khana's [Shi'ite places of worship], judges and all Muslim people of our free and independent country, with a sense of responsibility to Almighty God, His righteous messenger, Muhammad — peace be upon him and his family — and Almighty God's holy book, the holy Koran, deem it their faithful and conscientious duty to declare their position in connection with the open interference of Iran's reactionary ruling authorities by organizing the Afghan counterrevolutionary bands, their training and arming, the coordination of their subversive activities in the DRA, and the intensification of religious differences. It announces in connection with a report concerning the affiliation of the so-called four Islamic organizations, which has been broadcast by the mass media of the reactionary authorities of the ruling regime in Iran:

Noble and toiling Muslims, the enemies of our beloved homeland who with the transfer of political power to the Muslim and working people of our country lost all their anti-Islamic privileges and interests in our homeland, began to provide the grounds for the deception of our noble and Muslim compatriots under the mask of Islam and love for Islam, and to encourage them in inhuman and anti-Islamic subversive activities in order to revive their lost interests.

In order to achieve this sinister and greedy goal they created bands of thieves and highway robbers under the names of Islamic organizations here and there under the leadership of their known agents. On the instruction of international reaction and imperialism they are trying, by resorting to various tricks, to deceive our compatriots, separate them from their villages, homes, their land, their brother, sister and family, send them to the camps of death and war, and set them against the interests of their people and homeland.

The vain efforts that Iran's ruling reactionary authorities have recently set out concerning the coordination of the activities of these servant bands and the intensification of religious differences, are a series of these sinister and reactionary measures organized against our people and revolution. Iran's reactionary ruling authorities are trying, by resorting to such anti-Afghan and anti-Islamic actions, to determine the destiny of the people of Afghanistan from Iran: by abusing the beliefs of our people, to achieve their reactionary aims and use the deceived Afghans as cannon fodder in the Iraq-Iran war.

While allowing no one to determine the destiny of our Muslim and working people, we declare that the Muslims of our country are witnessing in action the respect that has been paid to the sacred religion of Islam today in their revolutionary country, unprecedented in the country's entire history. The principle of respect for and the observation and protection of the sacred religion of Islam has been enshrined in the DRA basic principles and the right to observe and perform religious rites for all Islamic faiths has also been upheld.

On the basis of this principle, the DRA state with profound respect for the faith of the people and for the further consolidation of the sacred religion of Islam has spent millions of afghanis for the construction and repair of mosques, takia khanas and holy places and for the provisions of facilities for the performance of religious rites, the maintenance of life of Ulema, religious leaders, imams and all servants of religion in the country. This expenditure during the years of revolution totals more than 851 million afghanis.

It was in line with these measures that following the victory of the April Revolution, in order to improve and better organize Islamic affairs in the country, the General Directorate of Islamic Affairs was created, which was recently promoted to the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and Endowment.

In consideration of the daily increasing consolidation of the sacred religion of Islam in the DRA and the programs of the party and revolutionary state toward service to the working Muslims of the country and the unjust and inhuman positions of the enemies of revolution, the High Council of Ulema and religious leaders of the DRA announce with a sense of responsibility to Almighty God to all Iranian Muslim brothers and deceived Afghans, not to be deceived by the enemies of the homeland, the enemies of revolution and the enemies of Islam who have no aim other than to preserve their anti-Islamic reactionary and greedy interests and to realize truth in complete accord with the guidance of God and to act in its light.

Almighty God instructs mankind in this regard: Whenever you realize the truth and you see the reasons that prove the truth and yet you slip into falsehood, then you should be aware that Almighty God is powerful, knowledgeable and wise. And what you are destined to receive as a result of your pursuit of the wrong path will be counted the result of your own deeds in accordance with the norms of justice. This is our reason, this is our religious jurisprudence.

The holy Koran writes concerning those who do not pay attention to and do not trust clear facts, those who follow falsehood and lies in order to gain unlawful material interest, and those who will still pursue their unrightful position: They are the group that Almighty God has not willed to cleanse their heart and mind of filth. Their destiny is their deeds, that is, poverty, humiliation, and great torment in the next world, since they are very much interested in gaining unlawful goods.

O messenger, if a group of them comes before you complaining, issue your decision concerning them, or never listen to them. If you refrain from hearing their complaints, they can never harm you; and if you decide to reach a decision concerning their

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Dost Offers Unconditional Talks With Pakistan

BK121253 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Afghanistan has offered to have talks with Pakistan without any precondition. This was conveyed to the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, by the Afghan foreign minister, Shah Mohammad Dost, during their first round of discussions in Kabul today. The All India Radio special correspondent, Prem Chand Arya, reports from Kabul that the Afghan leaders have expressed appreciation of India's stand as leader of the Non-aligned Movement in defusing tension in various parts of the world. During the talks Mr Bhandari reiterated India's opposition to the presence of foreign troops in any country.

Barialay To Head Committee Marking War Anniversary

LD120632 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 11, BAKHTAR: In accordance with the resolution of the Politburo of the PDPA CC, a commission to commemorate gloriously the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism has been formed in Afghanistan. The commission is headed by Mahmud Barialay, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary of the PDPA CC. This was stated in an interview granted by Abdullah Spantgar, the head of the Propaganda, Extension and Education Department of the PDPA CC to a BAKHTAR correspondent.

Progressive mankind marks extensively and splendidly the 40th anniversary of the victory over fascism. The people of Afghanistan [word indistinct] this great jubilee of the victory of peace over war and the elimination of fascist plague, stated Abdullah Spantgar.

In this great victory, the Red Army and the people of the Soviet Union, by heroic and courageous resistance, played a determining and significant role and bore the main brunt of the war. The progressive and peace-loving mankind are grateful to the great Soviet people who sacrificed 20 million of their sons in the war against fascism and nazism and salvaged mankind from fascist domination, added Abdullah Spantgar.

The PDPA has undertaken broad and comprehensive measures to play its worthy role in this universal and international festive and express the gratitude of the Afghan people to the anti-Hitlerite militants. By taking this opportunity, the PDPA endeavours to mobilize the public opinion of the country against the present-day war-mongering forces, i.e. the U.S. imperialism and other NATO member countries who are ceaselessly trying to impose another destructive war on the world, underlined Spantgar.

The mass media, the PDPA and all the social organizations of the DRA will launch a broad descriptive campaign about the historical and global significance of the defeat of Hitlerite fascism, the great role played by the Soviet Union in the defeat of fascism as well as its role to thwart the adventurist activities of the imperialist forces at the present condition, stated Spantgar.

The black shadow of the adventurous and dangerous schemes of Hitlerite fascism not only loomed over the people of Europe but it encompassed the peoples of the east including Afghanistan as well. The fascist strategy envisaged a special role to Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries. Through occupying Afghanistan, Hitler intended to open the southern front against the Soviet Union. The undeviating will of the people of Afghanistan inflicted a rebuffing blow on the cynical schemes of fascism, concluded Spantgar.

10 Counterrevolutionaries Join DRA Government

LD112359 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 11 Apr 85

[Text] A BAKHTAR correspondent reports from Herat Province that on 9 April, 10 deceived persons belonging to the so-called Party of God [Hezbollah] ceased subversive and anti-Islamic activity and, along with their weapons and ammunition, took advantage of the general amnesty and joined the DRA Government. They were organized in the ranks of other compatriots at the tribal brigade of Mamezak-e Zendajan and swore that, to compensate for their past actions, they would fight to the end of their lives against the counterrevolution.

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Sudan

A post in the new government has been reserved for southern rebel leader John Garang, Armed Forces Commander General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab announced at a news conference reported by AFP. He also disclosed that he has telephoned Garang to make arrangements for a meeting to discuss the southern problem, according to Omdurman radio. Meanwhile, as contacts continued for the formation of a government, representatives of Sudanese political parties in London spoke of "deep-seated differences" between unions and parties over the composition of the new cabinet, KUNA noted.

As for foreign affairs, Siwar al-Dhahab stated during his news conference that he has exchanged messages with Soviet, Ethiopian, and Libyan leaders to improve relations which "deteriorated" under the previous regime, Omdurman radio reported. He said Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's response was "positive," according to AFP.

Israel

Arriving in Cairo, Minister 'Ezer Weizman said his discussions would include the return of the Egyptian envoy to Israel, the Tabah problem, the Jordanian-PLO accord, and U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's mission, MENA reported. As for the possible summit meeting between Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Jerusalem radio reported that the two leaders recently exchanged messages in this regard.

PLO Affairs

The PLO Executive Committee and the Fatah Central Central Committee began a session of joint meetings in Baghdad under Yasir 'Arafat's chairmanship, Baghdad Voice of PLO radio reported. The discussions focused on southern Lebanon and recent political developments, including U.S. envoy Richard Murphy's tour.

A Riyadh radio commentary said the current PLO meetings in Baghdad are particularly important because of current diplomatic developments including Murphy's tour, which "observers" regard as the beginning of a U.S. move to deal "in a practical way" with the recent developments affecting the Palestinian issue.

The Abu Dhabi paper *AL-ITTIHAD* contended that the PLO and Jordan have not yet agreed on the names of Palestinian representatives for a joint delegation. The paper, which cited Palestinian sources, also said that during 'Arafat's recent talks in Amman, he was assured by Jordanian officials that if a Jordanian-Syrian rapprochement takes place it will be coordinated with the PLO.

Lebanon

The Phalangist Lebanese Forces continued to shell residential areas in Sidon despite the arrival in the city of a Lebanese Army unit, according to reports by Beirut radio. Security sources cited by the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio spoke of a bombardment with fragmentation and phosphorous shells that caused over 40 casualties. Nevertheless, a Lebanese Forces official cited by AFP subsequently announced that the Christian Militia had begun withdrawing men and artillery from the area as a good-will gesture aimed at ending the fighting. A Lebanese Forces Executive Committee statement broadcast by Voice of Lebanon radio expressed "surprise" at Prime Minister Rashid Karami's statements holding the Lebanese Forces responsible for the fighting in Sidon. The statement accused Palestinian and Muslim groups of starting the violence and obstructing the Lebanese Army's deployment.

Meanwhile, Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche reaffirmed Israel's willingness to resume negotiations with Lebanon on security arrangements following the IDF's withdrawal, Jerusalem radio noted.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad, in a speech to a youth federation conference broadcast by Damascus television, praised the example set by the "martyrs" of the Lebanese national resistance, "until it defeats the forces of aggression." As for the Palestinians, Al-Asad expressed confidence that they will "sever the hand that signs the writ of capitulation."

Tunisia

As a result of a 10-11 April judicial strike, Justice Minister Ridha Ben 'Ali announced in a statement carried by Tunis radio that President Habib Bourguiba had dissolved the Society of Young Judges. Additionally, he suspended a group of young judges from the bench and referred them to a "disciplinary council."

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BAKHTAR on Pakistan's 'Fraud of a Referendum'

LD160555 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0418 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 15, BAKHTAR: A political observer of BAKHTAR writes:

The new wave of anti-Afghan propagandist hysteria has loudly reverberated in Islamabad. Pakistan wants new billions of dollars as U.S. military aid in a bid to act as the region's policeman brandishing an American truncheon.

Ziaul Haq staged his fraud of a referendum to stay in power for another five years. No less false elections followed to put up democratic scenery around the same old military regime. Among other things, Mohammad Khan Junejo, one of the wealthiest landowners in Sind, has been "elected" prime minister personally by Ziaul Haq.

Washington was enraptured by the "election." It welcomed "Pakistan's progress towards democracy" and promised all-round support to the new government "which made the first step to establish a civil administration". Meanwhile that country is still too far off not only from democracy but even from guaranteeing Pakistani people's elementary human rights.

In his first public statement as prime minister, M. Junejo voiced support for Afghan counter-revolutionaries promising further aid to anti-Afghan groupings. He thanked the United States effusively.

The newspaper *WASHINGTON POST* said in the meantime that the United States needed Afghanistan as a bulwark against the Soviet Union, or at least as a trap for it. The paper called the undeclared war against the DRA "the most sacred cause on the Capitol Hill" and that war needs the territory of Pakistan, instead of an imaginary "democratization" of the regime there.

True, M. Junejo said his government would keep trying to solve the "Afghan problem" through a dialogue, but Ziaul Haq said so more than once while acting as told by Washington each time.

The proposals of the DRA Government on a political settlement around Afghanistan are only too well known. Progress in this hinges on the stance of the United States and its allies, Pakistan in particular. Regretfully the chance of scenery in Islamabad does not testify to a change in its policies as yet.

Free Tribes Statement Rebuffs Radio Propaganda

LD142311 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 12 Apr 85

[Text] As all the world public and especially the people of Afghanistan, Pakistan and the free tribes are aware, since a few months ago the military regime of Pakistan and U.S. imperialism, in order to impose their foul actions in the free tribal areas, have begun by threat and aggression and by constructing and creating trenches and roads to curtail the freedom of this free and historic land. In line with this, they have occupied the Wazir Baka Khel region, attacked the house of Nasib Khan Tori Khel and killed him together with women and children. They surrounded the house of Yarpacha Mohmand with tanks and martyred him and his friends on the door steps of his house. After this they destroyed the house of Malek Wali Khan Koky Khel with tanks and artillery and have martyred his friends.

As a result of these incidents all free tribes have become angry and have risen, from Bajawar to Wazirestan, to struggle to protect and safeguard the freedom of their territory and their honor.

They have harassed the military regime of Pakistan to such an extent that it has been forced to apologize and propose a tribal assembly. However, on the other hand the deceitful military regime of Pakistan and its imperialist American masters and their radios distort the struggles of the free tribes protecting their freedom and honor and have made allegations about these martyrs and leaders and show the political and rightful struggle of the free tribes to the world public in a distorted manner.

Not only the political personalities and the learned people of Pakistan but all the informed circles of the world are aware that the propaganda of the military regime of Pakistan are groundless, and no one pays attention to them.

Recently, the union of the patriotic and republican intellectuals of the free tribes, known as the tribal unity, published a statement through its Khyber Agency office which sheds light on the subject and ministers a crushing rebuff to the lie spreadings of the Voice of America, Pakistani, BBC, Deutsche Welle and other radios; the text of this is hereby presented to the viewers, listeners and readers:

Statement: It is a political issue not one of heroin. For a long time the Government of Pakistan has interfered in our free and independent identity, as a result of which anger and unrest is intensifying among the tribal peoples from day to day. When the free tribes protest the oppressive policies of the Government of Pakistan, the Government of Pakistan, in order to silence the protest by using forces and pressure, sends military forces to the tribal regions and bombards the houses of the tribal leaders which has resulted in loss of life and property.

In addition, the government, through foreign propaganda sources and agencies has begun slander and propaganda alleging that the Government of Pakistan has destroyed the heroin factories so as to defame the honorable tribes in this way. In addition to this they have made groundless criminal allegations against the political leaders of the free tribes and have called them rebels which is a ridiculous and unfortunate allegation.

It is the duty of the tribal unity to make this fact known to all nations of the world and especially to the people of Pakistan, that the current tense situation in the Khyber Agency is unrelated to the problem of heroin, but is the political struggle of the tribal people against the policy of imperialism and colonialism, begun for protecting the freedom and securing the basic and human rights of the free tribes.

We request all the people of free tribes and especially of the Khyber Agency to unite and to achieve these demands as soon as possible:

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Lebanon

Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced the resignation of his government in a statement reported by Beirut radio on 17 April. The fall of the government followed Labor and Education Minister Salim al-Huss's decision to resign because of current events in Beirut, where Amal movement gunmen clashed with followers of the Sunni militia, Al-Murabitun, on 16-17 April, according to the radio. Giving more details of the factional clashes in West Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio said that Amal and Progressive Socialist Party gunmen were tracking down the remaining Al-Murabitun forces on 17 April and had taken over the building housing Al-Murabitun's clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio, which had been silenced after receiving direct hits. The Voice of Arab Lebanon was unheard on 17 April after broadcasting a report on attempts to secure a cease-fire in West Beirut the previous evening. An Amal movement official cited by the Voice of Lebanon confirmed that Amal and its allies had taken "full control" of the situation in West Beirut on 17 April, capturing most of their opponents' positions. Amal leader Nabih Birri's house was hit by rockets earlier in the fighting, the radio noted.

Meanwhile, the Phalangist Lebanese Forces continued to shell Sidon, wounding over 20 people, Beirut radio reported. In remarks broadcast by the radio before his resignation, Prime Minister Karami urged the forces of the Christian "uprising" to withdraw from Sidon. He also rejected Israel's call to revive the Al-Naqurah talks.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Air Force hit a "very large maritime target" near Khark Island on the evening of 16 April, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio. Earlier, Iranian planes bombed Iraqi military targets on the southern front, according to an Iranian military report cited by Tehran radio. An Iranian spokesman subsequently denied an Iraqi claim that an Iranian aircraft was shot down in the raid, asserting that all the Iranian planes returned safely, IRNA noted.

Sudan

The composition of the provisional government will be announced "in the next 2 days," Armed Forces Commander General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab disclosed in a 16 April statement reported by SUNA. MENA listed the names of the 10 civilians nominated by the national alliance of trade unions and political parties and asserted that contacts have been made with southern rebel leader John Garang in Ethiopia. Southern leaders cited by AFP criticized the proposed makeup of the new cabinet because the three portfolios assigned to southerners will only be "secondary" posts.

In Cairo, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak received a visiting Sudanese military envoy, who stated afterward that all bilateral contracts, charters, and agreements will remain unchanged, MENA noted. As for relations with Saudi Arabia, Omdurman radio reported that General Siwar al-Dhahab has received a message from King Fahd promising to supply Sudan with fuel worth $61 million for a 3-month period.

Libya

Addressing the issue of the Sudanese southern rebel movement in an interview cited by Tripoli Radio, Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi said efforts are underway to ensure that John Garang's movement will neither "secede" nor continue the war following the change in regimes. Al-Qadhdhafi, who noted that he has met Garang, described him as "our ally" and urged the southerners to unite with Sudan to achieve their rights which are unattainable under "regional rule."

Israel

Egyptian Relations — Egyptian President Mubarak has "absolutely no objections" to meeting Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, but Egypt first wants to see "tangible progress" on Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon and on the Palestine issue, Egyptian presidential advisor Usamah al-Baz stated in remarks reported by MENA. Israeli Minister 'Ezer Weizman, in an interview broadcast by IDF radio following his meeting with Mubarak, assessed the chances for a Peres-Mubarak summit as "very good and reasonable." He also said there are "problems" to overcome before the summit is held "in a few weeks time," *THE JERUSALEM POST* stated, but this would be a task for the joint committee for summit planning which Weizman and Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali set up in their talks.

Murphy Talks — Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in remarks during his meeting with U.S. Envoy Richard Murphy said that the Jordanian initiative was "insincere" and "merely a tactical move" to bring about dialogue between the United States and the PLO, Jerusalem radio reported.

Pakistan

Eight people died when 2 days of rioting erupted in Karachi following a fatal traffic accident involving two students, London BBC World Service reported. To restore order, troops were sent in and a curfew has been imposed.

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Grand Tribal Assembly Elections Held in Provinces

[Editorial Report] Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto at 1530 GMT on 15 April carries an unidentified correspondent's 20-minute report on elections to the Grand Tribal Assembly. The correspondent begins:

"The High Commission for the Organization of Elections to and the convocation of the Grand Tribal Assembly reports that in accordance with a DRA Revolutionary Council decree dated 6 April 1985, and in accordance with decree No 18 of April [as heard] concerning the commencement of elections to the Grand Tribal Assembly, which was earlier communicated to the election commissions in the provinces, the election of candidates to the Grand Tribal Assembly -- this historical event for our country -- has begun throughout the country."

The correspondent notes that the first elected representatives from Paktia were announced by Sulayman La'eq, minister of nationalities and tribal affairs, at a meeting in Gardez. In his opening speech, Sulayman La'eq, said: "Elect your representatives to the Grand Tribal Assembly, which will meet in Kabul. We are an active nation; we are a courageous nation; we are becoming united. Hold tribal assemblies on the homeland's important issues in order to accomplish our humanitarian, Islamic, Afghan and Pashtun duty in these historic, critical moments of the country to help in protecting the interests of the homeland and our people; to help in defending the freedom and independence of the homeland; to help in the struggle against aggressors and warmongers; to help in maintaining peace and security in the homeland, and in securing equality and fraterntiy among the people of Afghanistan. Tribal assemblies and grand tribal assemblies have been and are the manifestations of the will of the people of our homeland. In Afghan society, the tribal assembly is an important meeting held to discuss tribal, national and local council meetings and decisions."

The correspondent points out in conclusion that the elections to the Grand Tribal Assembly have been announced in 13 provinces: Paktia, Konduz, Parwan, Helmand, Laghman, Kapisa, Oruzgan, Ghowr, Balkh, Samangan, Nangarhar, Wardak, and Nimroz. The total number candidates so far elected is 487. The date for holding the Grand Final Assembly elections in the other 15 provinces has yet to be announced.

Further on Elections

LD170558 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0506 GMT 17 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 16, BAKHTAR: The elections of the delegates of people for the participation in Loya Jirga (Grand General Assembly) continued throughout Afghanistan.

Elections took place in seven more provinces today such as Herat, Zabol, Sheberghan, Faryab, Lowgar, Jowzjan and Takhar. Elections have taken place in 22 provinces of the country so far. There are 29 provinces in Afghanistan.

The Loya Jirga will be devoted to the discussion of major domestic and foreign policies. The Loya Jirga will be convened in order to discuss the ways and means of ensuring reliable peace and security in the country and how to stop the interference of the imperialist and reactionary forces in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. It also provides the grounds for giving ever more extensive participation to the Afghan people in the state affairs.

Election Slogans Noted

LD170616 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0442 GMT 17 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 16, BAKHTAR: Slogans on the convocation of Loya Jirga, Grand General Assembly, have been published here today. The slogans regard Loya Jirga as a manifestation of the unshakeable solidarity of the peoples of Afghanistan in defending their country.

It describes that the unity and solidarity of the nations, tribes and nationalities of the country is a guarantor of the national independence, territorial integrity, peace and progress in the country.

It emphasizes that Loya Jirga is a manifestation of the solidarity of the tribes and nationalities with their revolutionary state.

The slogans call upon the people of Afghanistan to defend decisively and valorously like their fore-fathers against the interventions and aggressions of imperialism.

Pakistanis Protest Alexander Haig's Visit

LD170603 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0445 GMT 17 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 16, BAKHTAR: Huge and extensive demonstrations were staged by workers, peasants, students and other strata of Pakistani people all over the country in protest against the arrival of Alexander Haig, ex-foreign secretary of the USA to Islamabad.

According to international news media, the demonstrators set fire to the U.S. flag and chanted slogans against the USA conspiracy in the countries of the region and the arrival of Alexander Haig to Pakistan.

The demonstrators marched long distances through the streets despite the police efforts to disperse them. At least seventy students were wounded in the clashes beween the students and the police of the military regime, reports international news media.

After the massive demonstrations the military regime was forced to close down the schools and universities in Karachi city.

New Television Stations Opened in Khowst, Farah

LD170948 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 16 Apr 85

[Text] A television station of Khowst District was opened today in the course of a ceremony in this district by Gol Dad, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

In opening this station, which became operational on the basis of cultural policy of our party and revolutionary government, in his

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Lebanon

President Amin al-Jumayyil briefed Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the crisis in a lengthy telephone conversation and then contacted Prime Minister Rashid Karami, who agreed to continue to serve in a caretaker role until the government crisis is resolved, Beirut radio reported. Beirut radio also broadcast remarks by Amal movement leader Nabih Birri deploring the "nightmare" of sectarian violence in West Beirut and accusing "newcomers, foreigners, and guests" of backing an "uprising" by those opposed to plans for a meeting of national forces to study the security situation. The Amal leader subsequently hosted a meeting attended by Progressive Socialist Party leader Walid Junblatt and other leftist party leaders at which the conferees agreed to establish a unified military command and a joint strike force to deal with security problems, according to a statement broadcast by the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio. The statement also viewed the security of Palestinian camps "as part of Lebanon's national security" and announced a mobilization of all forces to repel the Phalangist "aggression" against Sidon.

As for the military situation in Beirut, Voice of Lebanon radio reported that Al-Murabitun gunmen took refuge in the Sabra and Shatila Palestinian camps, which were subsequently surrounded by Amal gunmen. Amal and its allies gained near total control over West Beirut in the fighting, which caused over 60 casualties, the radio said. In Baghdad, a PLO Executive Committee statement cited by INA viewed the current events in Beirut as the beginning of a new phase of an "Israeli-U.S. plot" to end the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. In another military development, Israeli planes attacked a Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine base at Barr Ilyas in the Al-Biqa' Valley on 17 April, IDF radio announced citing the IDF spokesman. Meanwhile, 10 IDF soldiers were wounded in three separate incidents in the south the same day, Jerusalem radio disclosed.

Israel-Egypt

No date has been set for a summit between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, Minister 'Ezer Weizman emphasized in a news conference reported by ITIM, but he spoke of much "goodwill" during his Egyptian talks even though the situation remains "chilly." As for the Egyptian side, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed ties with Israel will "greatly improve" although it is "still too early" to set a summit date, Jerusalem radio stated.

Sudan

While Muslim Brotherhood leader Hasan al-Turabi "threatened to open fire" on those who want to revoke Islamic law, southern Sudanese politicians made repeal of Islamic laws a condition for their participation in the transitional government, according to AFP reports. Meanwhile, Armed Forces Commander in Chief Colonel 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhahab, in an interview with Egypt's *AL-AHALI* cited by Omdurman radio, confirmed his intent to revoke the decree dividing the south into three regions.

Jordan

A 17 April government policy statement broadcast on Amman radio called for better communication and cooperation between the executive and legislative branches in domestic Arab, and international areas.

Iran

Commenting on the plan to reorganize the Iranian Army in a *JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI interview cited by IRNA, Armed* Forces Chief Colonel Esma'il Sohrabi said the Majlis defense commission has drawn up the new organization plan and approved its principles, adding that both the Majlis and Army are studying changes for the personnel and decisionmaking structures.

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Zia on Ties With Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan

PM171505 Jeddah 'UKAZ in Arabic 14 Apr 85 p 6

[Interview with President Mohammad Ziaul Haq by Muhammad Mahjub — date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Mr President, what is the purpose of your visit to the kingdom, and will you be meeting with his Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz?

Answer: I am on a private visit for pilgrimage and to visit the prophet's holy mosque.

Question: Despite the Islamic Good Offices Committee's efforts to end the Iraq-Iran war, that war is still raging. In your view, how can the problem of the war be solved practically?

Answer: When we think about the Iraq-Iran war we think about the positions of the two sides. These positions must be brought closer together to pave the way for a settlement. That can only be achieved through international efforts. That is the basis. Other efforts could then be exerted.

Question: Has the Good Offices Committee failed in its mission?

Answer: No it has not failed. His excellency President Dawda Jawara and Sharifuddin Pirzada are making great efforts, and there is tangible progress. We look forward to the results of these efforts, God willing.

Question: Will the Good Offices Committee meet shortly, and will all its members attend?

Answer: The Islamic Good Offices Committee must meet. If it makes progress, I hope it will meet continuously. That committee has not met for some time.

Question: Mr President, how do you assess the current situation in Lebanon, and what solutions do you envisage for the restoration of the old Lebanon?

Answer: We are sorry about the situation in Lebanon. Unfortunately, the Lebanese themselves do not wish to solve their problems. In fact they cannot solve these problems. The Lebanese people should determine their own fate.

Question: Mr President, Pakistan is faced with the problem of the Afghan refugees. What is the present condition of the refugees?

Answer: We do not consider the refugees to be a problem. Pakistan has a big heart and it has the means. It has a population of 85 million. So when 3 million refugees come in they are welcome, because they are fighting for their freedom. Pakistan is doing its duty in this connection. We are grateful to Saudi Arabia for its aid.

Question: Mr President, what is the situation really like in Afghanistan, and what are the results of your talks with the Soviet leader?

Answer: You know that Afghanistan's population is 15 million, of which 3 million are in Pakistan and 1 million in Iran and Europe. Communism came to power with the 1978 coup. Since the Russians have assumed power in an Islamic country with a well-known history, we conclude that the Afghan mujahidin war is a war of liberation. Most of the discussions held with the general secretary of the ruling party in the Soviet Union centered on Afghanistan. I expressed my views and they expressed theirs. We do not provide aid and assistance to the mujahidin. We just support the refugees who have left their homes and come to us. We know that the Soviet Union is a superpower, but Pakistan does not abandon its principles and positions. We do not interfere in other people's affairs, and we allow no one to interfere in our affairs. We welcome and wholeheartedly support the Afghans who have left their homes and taken refuge in Pakistan and who are fighting for their freedom and religion. From the bottom of our hearts we beseech Almighty God to restore their freedom so that they can go home.

Question: Mr President, How do you explain the Soviet ultimatum to Pakistan, and what is your reaction to it?

Answer: We do not consider it an ultimatum. We have had frank talks. Soviet-Pakistani relations should be stabilized. We are trying to arrive at a just solution to this problem with the Soviet Union.

Question: Mr President, How would you describe Pakistan's relations with Saudi Arabia, and how can these relations be further developed?

Answer: Pakistani-Saudi relations are exemplary and ideal. The Pakistani people and I retain great affection for His Majesty King Fahd Ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, his government, and his people.

MENA: Zia Interviewed on Relations With Egypt

NC171755 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 17 Apr 85

[Text] Cairo, 17 Apr (MENA) — Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has lauded Egypt's initiative to give momentum to peace efforts in the Middle East. He said that President Husni Mubarak took an extremely courageous step that has gotten the peace process moving and given it the impetus it has been missing.

In an interview to be published on Friday by the Cairo magazine *AL-MUSAWWAR*, President Ziaul Haq said that circumstances are completely favorable, and that the United States can now hold talks with a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation.

The Pakistani president described the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement as an excellent opportunity for peace. He added that it suits all the parties involved.

He expressed his belief that the Palestinian issue can be solved through the joint efforts of Jordan's King Husayn, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, and the Palestinians. They would be supported in this by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and every other Arab and Islamic state.

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Sudan

Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) leader Colonel John Garang will arrive in Khartoum on 19 April for talks with General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar Al-Dhahab, a Transitional Military Council (TMC) spokesman announced in a statement reported by AFP. A TMC decree, which was broadcast by Omdurman radio, added that the three southern regions will remain under military administration for the transitional period during which a national conference will be organized to establish the basis for the area's future government.

These developments in Khartoum followed the clandestine radio SPLA's announcement that the SPLA had resumed attacks on the Sudanese Army early on 17 April after the expiry of its deadline for the transfer of power to the people. As for the rebels' political stance, the radio broadcast remarks by Garang denying that the change of leadership in Khartoum was a genuine coup and warning that the interim military administration will lead to a takeover by the "reactionary" political parties. Nevertheless, the SPLA leadership has decided to release POW's as a gesture of solidarity with the recent "revolutionary action of the masses" in Khartoum, according to a SPLA spokesman cited by the radio.

Lebanon

Prime Minister Rashid Karami arrived in Syria where he held talks with Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam on the current situation in Beirut and Sidon, Damascus television reported. Earlier, in a statement broadcast by Beirut radio, Karami stressed that the Sunni Muslims "cannot surrender justice or faith" and reject any "abnormality, aggression, or slander against a faction of the people." The radio also broadcast a statement by the Military Command established by the Amal movement, the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), and their allies,announcing that the Command's joint military force would begin patrolling West Beirut late on 18 April and that the presence of other armed men on the streets was henceforth prohibited. Meanwhile, Amal and PSP gunmen raided houses of Al-Murabitun officials in the Sunni areas and their patrols also clashed with Palestinians in the Shatila refugee camp, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Al-Murabitun's radio remained off the air and an Al-Murabitun source cited by the Voice of Lebanon accused Amal and the PSP of ransacking and setting fire to his group's headquarters. The tension between Amal and Al-Murabitun has also spread to the Al-Biqa' Valley, where Syria has deployed tanks to prevent trouble, according to the radio.

In another development, Israel released 37 former inmates of Ansar camp, transferring them from their jail in Israel to southern Lebanon, Jerusalem radio announced.

Murphy's Tour

A 17 April Baghdad Voice of PLO radio commentary on U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs Richard Murphy's Mideast tour stressed that there is no justification to believe that his visit represents a new U.S. outlook. Meanwhile, Egyptian officials reaffirmed the importance of a meeting between the United States and a Palestinian-Jordanian delegation during their 18 April talks with Murphy, MENA noted.

Iran

Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni acknowledged the emergence of a "seditious" peace movement in an Army Day speech broadcast by Tehran radio, but he stressed that the nation will ignore internal and external attempts to create despair and will press on with the war "to the very last."

Afghanistan

A DRA Foreign Ministry statement broadcast by Kabul radio denied Pakistan's accusations that Afghan aircraft overflew and raided its territory on 14-15 April.

Pakistan

Recent rioting in Karachi caused 45 casualties, according to a local administration press report cited by Karachi radio.

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Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau Meets in New Delhi

Pakistan's Yaqub Khan Arrives

BK180407 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has arrived in New Delhi to attend the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau's ministerial meeting on Namibia beginning tomorrow. The meeting will discuss the action plan for early independence of Namibia. Under this plan, an appeal will be made for strict sanctions against the racist regime of South Africa and for the assistance for the South West African People's Organization. Meanwhile, the officials of the member countries are meeting today to discuss preparations for the conference.

Afghanistan's Dost Arrives

LD171824 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 17 Apr 85

[Text] Shah Muhammad Dost, the minister of foreign affairs, left this afternoon for New Delhi at the head of a delegation to take part in an extraordinary meeting of the coordination bureau of the nonaligned countries which is due to be held from 19 to 21 April at the level of foreign ministers.

The minister of commerce, Muhammad Khan Jalalar; deputy ministers in the Foreign Ministry; the director of the First Political Section; high-ranking officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the Indian ambassador in Kabul, J.N. Dixit, saw off the delegation at Kabul international airport.

The extraordinary meeting of the coordination bureau of the nonaligned countries will discuss topics concerning the policies of the racist regime of South Africa, racism and apartheid in Namibia, and the determination of the regime in Pretoria, despite the persistent demands of the people of the world, to avoid granting independence to the people of Namibia.

According to another report, the minister of foreign affairs, Shah Muhammad Dost arrived in Delhi at 1550 and was welcomed by Khurshid Alam Khan, the Indian minister of state for external affairs; high ranking officials of that ministry, and the DRA ambassador in Delhi and members of the embassy.

In a short interview with an All India Radio reporter on his arrival at Delhi airport, Shah Muhammad Dost said in answer to a question about the meeting of the foreign ministers of the nonaligned countries concerning Namibia, that all countries with similar opinions about Namibia should raise the voice of the people of Namibia and their true representative, SWAPO. He added that the racist regime of South Africa cannot create trouble by itself for its neighboring countries without the help of the United States and the partnership of Israeli Zionism. He said that the racist regime of South Africa has so far undermined all decisions of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity regarding Namibia. In conclusion, he expressed the hope that the meeting will be able to bring about positive results regarding the demands of the people of Namibia.

Also, this afternoon Shah Muhammad Dost met with Khurshid Alam Khan, the minister of state for external affairs of India, and discussed topics of mutual interest with him. The DRA ambassador in India, Muhammad Hasan Sharq, and some high-ranking officials of both countries were present at the meeting.

This evening the minister of foreign affairs, Shah Muhammad Dost, attended a dinner given in his honor by Khurshid Alam Khan, the minister of state in the Indian Ministry of External Affairs.

Bangladesh's Chowdhury Arrives

BK180147 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] Bangladesh has reiterated its total support to the people of Namibia in their just struggle for independence. The foreign affairs adviser, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, on his arrival in New Delhi last night to lead the Bangladesh delegation at the nonaligned bureau meeting on Namibia said South Africa has absolutely no business in Namibia. We must persuade Pretoria to vacate the area which they have been occupying illegally. Mr Chowdhury said the Delhi meeting must find a solution to the Namibian problem.

The 3-day meeting will be opened by the Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and it is expected to be preceded by an official-level meeting today.

Replying to a question, he said during his stay he may discuss bilateral issues with Indian officials.

Preparatory Meeting Held

BK181005 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] Senior officials of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned countries met in New Delhi this morning to prepare for the extraordinary ministerial meeting of the bureau beginning tomorrow. The officials meeting was presided over by the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari. It adopted the provisional agenda for the ministerial meeting. The question of Namibia is the only item on the agenda of the ministerial meeting. However, the action commmittee of the nonaligned countries on the critical economic situation in Africa will also be holding a meeting this afternoon. It is expected to finalize an action program which will then be presented to the ministerial meeting for endorsement. This action committee has been active in New York for the past few months.

Addressing the officials at this morning's session, the foreign secretary, Mr Bhandari, said the nonaligned bureau is meeting in the context of the continued impasse in the implementation of the plan for Namibia's independence. Recent developments have reinforced the suspecion of the world community about South Africa's bona fides with regard to the Security Council's resolution of 1978 calling for the complete withdrawal of South African control over Namibia. Mr Bhandari said an elaborate farce of progress toward independence is also being enacted in

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Further Reportage on Delhi Nonaligned Meeting

More Arrivals Reported

BK181656 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] Delegates from some more countries arrived in the capital today to attend the conference [of the Nonaligned Coordinating Bureau]. They include the foreign ministers of Cuba, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guyana, Mauritius, Tanzania, Sri Lanka, Camaroon, and Egypt and the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mr 'Arafat. Mr 'Arafat was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

Speaking to newsmen, Mr 'Arafat appreciated India's support to the freedom fighters all over the world.

Egypt's Ghali Comments

BK181409 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 18 Apr 85

[Text] The Egyptian minister of state for foreign affairs, Dr Butrus Ghali, has said India and Egypt can play positive role in promoting international peace. In an interview with UNI, Dr Ghali said that the two countries, being founder members of the Nonaligned Movement, can work together to defuse tension in the world and strengthen the movement.

More on Gandhi Opening Speech

BK191634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Excerpts] The Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned Countries which began a 3-day ministerial meeting in New Delhi this morning has expressed its profound indignation over the setting up of a puppet regime in Namibia by the racist South African Government.

In his opening speech, Mr Rajiv Gandhi urged the meeting to draw up a program of action which will show the brave fighters of Namibia that the Nonaligned Movement means business. Mr Gandhi said the Pretoria regime was able to defy the world community for so long only because of the open and hidden abetment from some countries.

He underlined the need for a strong reaffirmation of the responsibility of the United Nations for the independence of Namibia and said the nonaligned countries would oppose any effort to bypass the United Nations and promote spurious schemes of internal settlement.

The prime minister referred to the full backing of the Nonaligned Movement to any initiative that promotes disarmament and said it is a great imperative of our day. He also reiterated the movement's support for the Palestine Liberation Organization. Mr Gandhi expressed anxiety over the deteriorating security environment in the Indian Ocean region and the tensions and conflicts in Asia and Central America. Everything that affects peace and abridges freedom and everything that aggravates international economic disparities is of concern to the Nonaligned Movement, he said. Mr Gandhi later released the first day cover on Namibia.

The PLO chief, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, reiterated the full commitment of his organization to SWAPO's fight for independence of Namibia. Referring to the Iran-Iraq war, Mr 'Arafat appealed to the warring countries to put an immediate end to the hostilities.

Cable to UN on Namibia

BK191624 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1505 GMT 19 Apr 85

[Text] The following is the text of a telegram sent to the president of the UN Security Council, condemning South Africa's decision to instal a so-called "internal administration" in Namibia:

The ministers of foreign affairs of the Coordinating Bureau of Nonaligned Countries, meeting in an extraordinary session in New Delhi, have learnt with profound indignation that the racist South African regime has decided to proceed with its sinister scheme to instal yet another puppet regime in illegally occupied Namibia.

This maneuvre by the racist regime of South Africa to instal a so-called "internal administration" in Namibia constitutes the most brazen defiance of the United Nations, in particular, the Security Council, which declared in its Resolution 439 (1978) that any unilateral measure taken by the illegal occupation regime in Namibia is null and void. This illegal action has evoked universal disapproval.

Since the General Assembly revoked South Africa's mandate over Namibia nearly two decades ago, the Pretoria regime had been consistently demonstrating its intention to impose an "internal solution" in Namibia in utter disregard of the demands of the Namibian people for self-determination and genuine independence and of the will of the international community.

The ministers energetically condemn and reject this latest action by South Africa and call upon the international community to condemn it and refrain from according any recognition to this latest ploy of the racist Pretoria regime to perpetuate its illegal occupation of the territory by impeding the implementation of the United Nations plan for the independence of Namibia, embodied in Security Council Resolutions 385 (1976) and 435 (1978) — the only acceptable basis for the peaceful transition of the territory to independence.

In the face of such blatant violation of the relevant United Nations resolutions on Namibia, in particular, Security Council resolutions 435 (1978) and 439 (1978), the Council should proceed forthwith to initiate appropriate actions under the charter of the United Nations, including chapter VII thereof, so as to ensure racist South Africa's compliance with the aforementioned resolutions.

The movement of nonaligned countries once again reiterates its firm and unwavering commitment to the heroic struggle of the Namibian people for freedom and national independence, under

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Sudan

A Transitional Military Council (TMC) decree broadcast by Omdurman radio announced the formation of a new cabinet headed by Al-Jazuli Daf'allah as prime minister. The Defense Ministry is held by a TMC member while the deputy prime minister and two other ministers are southerners. Defining the relationship between the TMC and the new government in an interview reported by MENA, Daf'allah declared that no one has the right to dismiss the government unless the prime minister chooses to resign for "special reasons." The TMC retains sovereignty and legislative authority while the Council of Ministers represents executive authority, he observed.

As for talks with Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) leader Colonel John Garang, TMC Chairman 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab told the UAE's *AL-KHALIJ* that he is willing to meet Garang outside Sudan, and he mentioned indications of Garang's "keen interest" in talks. The paper also related Siwar al-Dhahab's interest in improving relations with the Soviet Union since the previous regime "wrongly evaluated" their relationship. Kuwait's *AL-WATAN* cited diplomatic sources that the USSR has invited Siwar al-Dhahab to Moscow and also reported a "secret" 18 April meeting in Cairo between Siwar al-Dhahab and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, according to KUNA. Meanwhile, a TMC member visiting Libya stated in a speech broadcast by Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio that Libya and Sudan will shortly resume diplomatic and commercial ties.

Libya-USSR

CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev invited Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to visit the Soviet Union in a message delivered to the Libyan leader by the Soviet ambassador, JANA reported.

Lebanon

The Phalangist Lebanese Forces ceased fire in Sidon on 22 April in accordance with instructions from their chief of staff, Samir Ja'ja', a Lebanese Forces official asserted in a statement reported by Voice of Lebanon radio. Ja'ja' had announced the Lebanese Forces' decision to unilaterally stop fighting during a news conference cited by the radio, stating that his side would begin withdrawing gunmen from the Sidon front on 23 April in order to allow the Lebanese Army to assume its security responsibilities. Local Christian militia will remain in the area but fighters from outside the region will leave, he said.

Meanwhile, in a letter to President Amin al-Jumayyil reported by Beirut radio, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad stressed that Syria will support the Lebanese Army's deployment in the western Al-Biqa' and Rashayya areas following the IDF withdrawal. The Lebanese Army will move there through the Syrian lines and has already moved to nearby positions in the Al-Biqa' valley in preparation for the Israeli withdrawal, the radio said. In another development, Prime Minister Rashid Karami and other Muslim politicians left for Damascus to attend the nationalist Islamic meeting scheduled to start on 23 April, according to the radio.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told a Knesset committee that leading the coalition in "negotiations with Jordan and the Palestinians" is at the top of his agenda, Jerusalem radio reported. Meanwhile, Egyptian media have not mentioned or confirmed an IDF radio report that the Egyptian consul in Elat was recalled to Cairo in the wake of the Coral Island incident with Tourist Minister Avraham Sharir, which the consul said "created an uneasy atmosphere." A PLO military spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio claimed responsibility for "executing a Zionist officer" near Jerusalem on 20 April.

Murphy Tour

The Palestinian leadership has rejected three proposals on Palestinian participation in a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation conveyed by the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, Richard Murphy, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf disclosed in a statement reported by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio. Meanwhile, Murphy held talks in Damascus with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Damascus radio noted.

Afghanistan

In the wake of recent Pakistani complaints about Afghan aircraft overflying Pakistan, Kabul radio reported that the DRA Foreign Ministry protested to Pakistan over a 17 April overflight of Afghan territory by a Pakistani military plane.

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Further Reportage on Nonaligned Meeting in Delhi

Mugabe Speech Read

MB220610 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says Zimbabwe will continue to support the struggling Namibians. Comrade Mugabe's pledge is carried in a speech read on his behalf by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, at the extraordinary meeting of the Nonaligned Movement currently taking place in the Indian capital, New Delhi. The prime minister pointed out that the Namibian independence issue remains unresolved to this hour because of the intransigence of the Pretoria regime assisted by its allies. The statement also said cunning tactics have been applied to delay the implementation of UN Resolution 435, which stipulates that there should be a general election in Namibia under the supervision of the United Nations. It said Zimbabwe is totally opposed to Pretoria's insistence on the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a condition for the attainment of freedom by Namibia.

Speaking of the same topic, Comrade Mangwende strongly condemned Pretoria's arrogant defiance of the international community's wish on Namibia. The foreign minister criticized the racist country' plans to set up a stooge parties government in the territory. He also castigated the United States' so-called policy of constructive engagement, which advocates collaboration with the South African regime.

Zambian Minister Comments

MB221310 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 22 Apr 85

[Text] Foreign affairs minister, Prof Lameck Goma, has described South Africa's economic, ideological, and strategic considerations towards the independence of Namibia as artificial barriers hampering the progress of Namibia's freedom.

Professor Goma noted that these artificial barriers have made it very difficult for nonaligned countries to determine how soon Namibia will be free adding that this is a complex issue which has been made artificially difficult.

Speaking in an interview with a New Delhi newspaper yesterday, Professor Goma said the West seemed to believe that SWAPO's independence would enable it to follow the communist system, which is unacceptable to them.

He pointed out that Namibia's uranium and other unharnessed precious mineral resources would be a great loss to some Western countries, which fear that the minerals would, after independence be under the responsibility of the communist bloc.

He said South Africa's ideological and strategic fears were unfounded, because SWAPO, like other independent black states, has expressed the desire to pursue the policy of nonalignment.

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Sudan

Commenting on the new government, the clandestine Sudanese People's Liberation Army radio said "little" has changed but while they accept Daf'allah as a "new respected and patriotic citizen," they do not accept the idea that he is under "orders of the military." In another development, Libya and Sudan signed a bilateral agreement restoring relations, Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland radio stated.

Lebanon

Phalangist Lebanese Forces completed their withdrawal from Sidon despite Palestinian attempts to "obstruct" them, according to a Lebanese Forces statement carried by Voice of Lebanon radio. As for Israeli forces, Beirut radio said IDF troop withdrawals began in both the Jazzin and Masgharah areas on 24 April.

Syria

President Hafiz al-Asad reaffirmed Syria's "principled stand" on the question of peace in the region during his 23 April talks with visiting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, Damascus television reported. Meanwhile, Syria's *AL-THAWRAH* lambasted U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz' recent statement calling on Arab regimes to negotiate directly with Israel, asserting that this is an attempt to push the Arabs toward "treason and capitulation" and warning that the United States will not be able to protect its "agent" regimes, according to Damascus radio.

Jordan

King Husayn received Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id who began a 5-day official visit on 23 April, Amman radio reported.

The two leaders held talks on the Palestine question, the Iran-Iraq war, and bilateral relations, according to a Royal Court spokesman cited by the radio.

Iran

The Hezbollahis were "quite right" to demonstrate against those wearing "strange clothes" that reflect Western cultural domination but there should be no further demonstrations of this type because the government will henceforth take action against those guilty of "immorality" and "indecency," President 'Ali Khamene'i stated in an interview broadcast by Tehran radio.

While acknowledging that the Hezbollahis have committed "certain excesses," Khamene'i blamed such deeds on "hostile minigroups" which have infiltrated the Hezbollah.

Pakistan-DRA

Pakistan rejected the DRA's accusation that a Pakistani aircraft violated Afghan airspace 17 April, Karachi radio reported.

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BAKHTAR on Opening

LD240650 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0426 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 23, OANA-BAKHTAR — Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) of the people of Afghanistan was opened here today. In this Loya Jirga 1,796 representatives from all over the country who have been elected by local jirgas in the traditional free and democratic atmosphere are participating.

The jirga was attended by the Politburo members of the Central Committee of the PDPA, members of the Presidium of the Revolutionary Council and members of the Council of Ministers of the DRA, representatives of the social organizations and ambassadors of the friendly countries to the DRA are participating as well.

Representatives of all national, democratic, patriotic and progressive strata and classes belonging to all nationalities and tribes of the country (are) also participating at the jirga.

In his inaugural speech, Babrak Karmal described the significance of the Loya Jirga as a collective decision-making body for the solution of pressing national and historical tasks and as one of the lasting traditions of the Afghan people.

The present Loya Jirga, which is being held for the first time after the victory of the April Revolution (1978) on the basis of the favourite national traditions and customs has before it great vital and significant tasks, Babrak Karmal added.

He stressed that the Loya Jirga of the representatives of the Afghan people is being convened to provide answers to domestic and foreign issues facing the country.

The members of the presidium, credential commission and Secretariat of Loya Jirga of the DRA were unanimously elected.

Abdul Rahim Hatef, a prominent social figure, former deputy at Wolosi Jirga, (parliament) and a leading member of National Fatherland Front of the DRA, was elected as president of Loya Jirga. The report of the credential commission was unanimously approved.

Kohat Khan Bridwall representative of Nangarhar Province, Muhammed Amin, representative of Jowzjan Province and others made speeches in today's session. The session of the Loya Jirga will continue tomorrow as well.

Karmal Addresses Assembly

LD240702 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0432 GMT 24 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 23, BAKHTAR — "The convocation of present Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) is an invitation to the whole people of the country to take part in the defence of the homeland, the revolution and the ensuring of conditions for peaceful and constructive work for blossoming of the country, the well-being and prosperity of the present and coming generations."

This was stated by Babrak Karmal while delivering his main speech at Loya Jirga here today.

In this Loya Jirga 1796 representatives from all over the country who have been elected by local jirgas in the traditional free and democratic atmosphere and 200 guests are participating.

Having mentioned that jirga is a collective decision-making body for the solution of the pressing national and historical tasks was and is one of the lasting traditions of the Afghan people, Babrak Karmal said:

"This undeclared war imposed by imperialism and its allies on us, has posed a question of life and death, the question of national independence of our country and the question of the Afghan peoples being free or enslaved."

It is the national-historical duty of this Loya Jirga to strongly, clearly and decisively provide an Afghan-like, revolutionary and progressive answer, Babrak Karmal said.

The formation of the PDPA he went on to say, constitutes one of the most important turning points in the history of the revolutionary movement of Afghanistan, the 20th founding anniversary of which was gloriously marked by the working people of our country some time ago.

Dwelling on the achievements of the April Revolution, Babrak Karmal said that the revolution as being the lawful answer to the increasing historical dissatisfaction of the people with the arbitrariness and reactionary policies of the anti-people's regime was accomplished by the broadest strata and classes of the working people of the society under the leadership of the PDPA.

The greatest achievement of the national democratic April Revolution, the president of the Revolutionary Council noted is the establishment of the new and revolutionary power of the working people, from which emerged the new political system in the country and the PDPA as the leading, guiding and organising force of the Afghan formed its core. [passage indistinct]

The achievements and the success of the revolution would have been much greater Babrak Karmal said, had the undeclared war of imperialism, hegemonism and reaction against the DRA not continued. The enemies of the revolutionary Afghanistan are expanding the dimensions of their interference in the internal affairs of the country. This is the main obstacle on the part of the peaceful development of the revolution and speedier realisation of economic and social changes in the interest of the people.

General secretary of the PDPA CC pointed out that the real instigator of the undeclared war against Afghanistan is the criminal US imperialism. In the past few years US imperialism and its allies have spent over one billion dollars on their subversive anti-Afghan activities.

Pakistan has become the springboard of aggression and interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan.

Nothing can be more shameful than claiming that the Afghan counter-revolutionary bands receive arms for the "defence of

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Lebanon

A cease-fire was concluded after artillery and rocket shelling resumed along Beirut's contact lines, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, the Phalangist Lebanese Forces in a statement carried by clandestine Radio Free Lebanon called on citizens for a "general strike" 27 April to protest the continued "attacks" in the Sidon area and because the Lebanese Army continued to "hesitate" in assuming its duty to protect the area. The Lebanese Army deployment in the Sidon area "could not be completed" because of "armed militamen," according to Beirut radio. However, the radio noted that the Army was taking up positions in the areas vacated by the IDF, while Jerusalem radio stated that Jabal al-Baruk was seized by the Druze.

Sudan

Following the cabinet's swearing-in ceremony before the Transitional Military Council (TMC), Prime Minister Al-Jazuli Daf'allah and the cabinet held their first session, SUNA reported. Commenting on the Cabinet's discussion of the problem of the South, the cabinet spokesman noted that "channels of dialogue were open" between Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) leader Colonel John Garang and trade union groups, the agency disclosed. As for foreign relations, the agency reported that a TMC member affirmed Sudan's "keeness" to restore relations with Ethiopia and that a TMC delegation will visit Ethiopia soon. However, the Sudanese Popular Front-Revolutionary Committees Movement leader, who was returning to Sudan from Libya, pledged to Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi that "we shall remain on the path of struggle under your green flag," according to JANA. The socialist front members and their leader were congratulated on their return to the "homeland" by TMC Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Muhammad Hasan Siwar al-Dhabab, SUNA observed.

Egyptian Relations

President Husni Mubarak, describing the tripartite talks in Jordan with King Husayn and Oman's Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id as "extremely good," said the summit dealt with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, the Iran-Iraq war, and Lebanese issues, MENA reported. Mubarak also stressed the role of the new maritime line between Jordan and Egypt in strengthening bilateral relations, the agency noted. In a statement published in the Abu Dhabi *AL-ITTIHAD* cited by WAM, Mubarak disclosed that Egypt has had contacts with Syria on the Palestinian issue. Meanwhile, Egypt will not agree to a summit with Israel unless "three preconditions" are met, Egyptian Charge d'Affaires Muhammad Basyuni told Jerusalem radio. They are Israel's "full withdrawal" from Lebanon "without any checkpoints" in the security area, steps toward comprehensive peace, and arbitration on the Tabah problem.

Iran-Iraq

The Iraqi Air Force raided "two very large maritime targets" near Khark Island, Iraq announced in a military communique broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio. In a separate development, Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi told IRNA that if the UN Security Council failed to condemn Iraq, it would lead to "further escalation of the war."

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Karmal Closing Speech Cited

LD260718 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0430 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 25, OANA-BAKHTAR: We regard the decisions of the present Loya Jirga the manifestation of the real will of the noble and working people of Afghanistan. We hereby declare that the valiant people of Afghanistan are marching ahead as a monolithic whole towards the bright future and that no power can shatter the unity of party, state and people the citadel and basis of the invincibility of our revolution.

This has been stated by Babrak Karmal, in his concluding speech at the Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) of the people of Afghanistan, which concluded today.

The revolutionary party and state, the general secretary of the PDPA CC and president of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA went on to say, consider themselves dutybound to execute the decisions of this historic Loya Jirga with honesty, self-sacrifice and loyalty to the interests of the people and country.

Having summed up the results that have been achieved from the 3-day long deliberations of the Loya Jirga as the supreme decision-taking body of the people of Afghanistan, Babrak Karmal said: Loya Jirga categorically proclaimed that the PDPA is the leading and guiding force of the society and state of Afghanistan.

The Loya Jirga affirmed, Babrak Karmal said, that the revolution turned the people of Afghanistan into real owners of the country and for the first time in history of the country laid the foundation of a national, independent and democratic staff.

The objectives of the national democratic April Revolution and the home and foriegn policies of the state of the DRA, accord with the historical will of the people, and reflect the interest and demands of the absolute majority of working people of Afghanistan.

The Loya Jirga took a decision to the effect that the absolute and complete annihilation of armed counter-revolution and combatting and rebutting the foreign aggression are the sacred national and patriotic duty of the people of Afghanistan.

It was stressed in the Loya Jirga, Babrak Karmal added, that under the conditions when the undeclared war against the country intensifies, the supreme interests of country, revolution and people dictate that the question of strengthening Armed Forces of the country, of taking urgent and serious measures for safeguarding, defending and sealing the frontiers of DRA with Pakistan and Iran, being a decision of great, vital and historical importance, should become the cause of the whole party, state and people.

Defence of revolution, joining the ranks of the Armed Forces of the DRA and the intensification of struggle against counter-revolution are the sacred national and patriotic duty of every citizen of the DRA.

The Loya Jirga proclaimed that the foreign policy of the state of the DRA fully accords with historical and national interests of Afghanistan.

The Loya Jirga characterised the friendly, fraternal and traditional Afghan-Soviet relations as emanating from the firm historical will of the people of Afghanistan and as an important factor in safeguarding independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the nation of proud Afghans.

We are confident, Babrak Karmal concluded, that the future generations would proudly remember this Loya Jirga.

Assembly Endorses Resolution

LD260812 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0527 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Kabul, April 25, (OANA-BAKHTAR) — The Loya Jirga (Grand Assembly) of the representatives of the people of Afghanistan fully endorsed the home and foreign policies of the Government of the DRA. This was stated in a resolution, adopted by the assembly concluded its work today. [sentence as received]

The main lines of these policies are aimed at complete eradication of the remnants of the backwardness and cruel social relations of the past, ensuring to the participation of the people in the solution of basic socio-political problems of the country on the basis of the principles of genuine democracy, completely implementing land and water reforms in the interest of the peasants and with their participation, development of national industries and raising the level of the national economy, raising the level of material and cultural life of the people.

The foreign policy of the DRA is based on peace and peaceful co-existence, militant revolutionary solidarity with all liberation movements, non-alignment, expansion and development of traditional and brotherly relations with the Soviet and other socialist and progressive countries, solidarity with all the peoples of the world, especially the Muslim peoples.

The Loya Jirga, the resolution said, endorses the policy of the state of the DRA, as regards the political solution of the issues around Afghanistan on the basis of the constructive proposals of the government.

The undeclared war of imperialism reaction against free, independent and sovereign Afghanistan must be stopped at the earliest and an end be put to intervention and aggression against the DRA.

An end should be put as soon as possible to the crimes of counter-revolutionary bandits and they must not be allowed to continue fratricide in our country. The counter-revolution must be uprooted quickly and forever and peace, brotherhood and overall security must come to prevail in the country, so that necessary conditions for accelerating the construction of a new progressive, advanced and powerful Afghanistan may be created, the resolution added.

The Loya Jirga of the representatives of the people of Afghanistan considers the disinterested and brotherly assistance

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Lebanon

Fighting broke out along Beirut's contact lines 30 April, although the Phalangist Lebanese Forces spokesman had earlier called for a "complete cease-fire" within 48 hours, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. As for the situation in Jazzin, Minister of State for Southern Lebanon and Reconstruction Affairs Nabih Birri stated that he and Minister Walid Junblatt have agreed that the Amal movement and the Progressive Socialist Party will not attack Jazzin or displace its inhabitants, Beirut radio reported. Birri emphasized that the recent events around Sidon were not directed against the Christians, but against "those who deal with Israel." Meanwhile, the commander of the army of southern Lebanon (ASL) announced that the defense of Jazzin remains the ASL's responsibility, Voice of Lebanon noted. As for Israel's attitude toward the Christian's situation, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reaffirmed in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio that Israel has ended its involvement in domestic Lebanese problems and will only assist the Christians or others in defense of the security zone. Regarding the Tyre area, Beirut radio confirmed that the Lebanese Army and the Amal movement entered the areas evacuated by the IDF, while Jerusalem radio disclosed that the Amal movement apprehended 30 suspected Israeli collaborators in Tyre.

Israel

A commission of inquiry into the Lebanon war "would not facilitate the maintenance of the unity government" and would cause "a most grave internal situation in the country," Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir declared in a Jerusalem radio interview. Shamir also told Jewish settlers in the Gaza Strip that Israel has reached the limits of border concessions to its neighbors, asserting that no Jewish settlement will ever again be dismantled or abandoned, the radio reported.

Sudan

The authorities will meet the "popular demand" for the trial of former President Ja'far Numayri although it is not considered a "first priority issue," Defense Minister 'Uthman 'Abdallah Muhammad stated in an Abu Dhabi *AL-ITTIHAD* interview. Meanwhile the clandestine Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA) radio carried a further warning of SPLA's intention to continue its struggle northward toward Khartoum. A 25 April *PRAVDA report on Sudan referred to problems in the south* without mentioning Garang or his movement.

Maghreb Affairs

The Tunisian foreign minister began a visit to Libya, expressing the hope that talks with his Libyan counterpart will consolidate bilateral relations and overcome "negative points," TAP reported. In Algeria, the State Security Court sentenced 70 Muslim fundamentalists to various prison terms, according to AFP.

DRA-Pakistan

The Pakistani Foreign Ministry lodged "strong" protests with the Afghan charge d'affaires over Afghan airspace violations on 25, 26, and 29 April, according to Karachi radio.

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Karmal Presents Promotions to Military Officers
LD271254 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 Apr 85

[Text] Yesterday afternoon at the Gol Khana Palace Headquarters of the Revolutionary Council, Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council, presented orders of promotion to several high-ranking officers of the Armed Forces. They were being promoted to the ranks of major general-guardian [toran jenral paswal] and brigadier general-deputy guardian [brig jenral-malpaswal] to mark the 7th anniversary of the April Revolution.

Congratulating those officers who were promoted to the rank of general, Babrak Karmal spoke about the responsibility of the Armed Forces for the defence of freedom, national independence, territorial integrity, and defense of the country's national authority as well as defense of the gains of the April Revolution. He wished them success in the duties allotted to them.

Major General Nazar Muhammad, DRA minister of defense, assured Babrak Karmal on behalf of the Armed Forces that the DRA Armed Forces under the leadership of the PDPA, led by Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, president of the DRA Revolutionary Council and supreme commander of the DRA Armed Forces, will not spare any effort or sacrifice for the accomplishment of their major duties.

The Secretariat of the Revolutionary Council Presidium reported that on the occasion of the 7th anniversary of the April Revolution, the DRA Revolutionary Council Presidium has approved the promotion of the following officers in recognition of the major and vital role played by the Armed Forces in defense of the gains of the April Revolution, national independence, territorial integrity, consolidation of [words indistinct] and strengthening of the country's defenses.

A. Those officers promoted from brigadier general-deputy guardian to major general-guardian were:

Nazar Muhammad [minister of defense], son of Aqa Muhammad;
Sayyed Muhammad Golabzoy [minister of interior], son of Gulab Shah;
Muhammad Nabi 'Azimi [Revolutionary Council member], son of Ghulam Haydar;
Muhammad Yasin Sadeqi [PDPA Central Committee Secretariat member], son of Muhammad Sadeq;
Shahnawaz Tanay [PDPA Central Committee Secretariat member], son of Abdul Halim;
Husamuddin [Revolutionary Council member], son of Shahabuddin;
Ghulam Faruq Yaqubi [minister without portfolio], son of Khan Muhammad;
Nurol Haq 'Alami, son of Abdul Azim;
Muhammad Afzalluddin [candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee], son of Muhammad Sarwar.

B. Those officers promoted from colonel-peace officer [samonwal] brigadier general-deputy guardian were:

Abdul Haq 'Alami, son of Abdul Azim;
Ahmaduddin, son of Zaynul'abedin;
Basmillah, son of Abdul Ahmad;
Jamal Khan, son of Taleqan;
Dayah Khan, son of Shah Wali;
Dawud Shah, son of Jowhar Shah;
Abdul Jalal Razmandah, son of Abdul Jabbar;
Abdul Fattah, son of Abdul Hadi;
Gholam Hazrat, son Abdul Razzaq;
Gul Muhammad, son of Babrak;
Muhammad Asef, son of Merajan;
Muhammad Hasan, son of Shah Murad;
Muhammad Mohsen Helali, son of Abdul Wahid;
Muhammad Nader, son of Masjedi;
Muhammad Nabi Shoredah, son of Abdul Samad;
Muhammad Nay, son of Abdul Qoddus;
Mer 'Azimuddin, son of Mer Jalaluddin;
Najibullah, son of Abdul Qoddus;
Walayat Khan, son of (Abi Khan).

The source added that the decree concerning the promotion of these officers is being sent to their respective authorities.

Ministry of Defense Announces Routine Discharges
LD291817 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Apr 85

[Text] The announcement of the DRA Ministry of Defense concerning the routine discharge and unit NCO's who have completed their term in the Armed Forces up to 3 May of the current year:

1. Those unit NCO's, conscripts and reserved troops, whose term of service in the Armed Forces will be completed up to 3 May, 1985, will be released from the ranks of the DRA Armed Forces as between the months of May and July and should be registered in their terms of service in the reserves according to law:

A: Troops and unit NCO's who, by 3 May, have served in combat units for 3 years or more;

B: Troops and unit NCO's who are serving in logistic, guard and maintenance units under the orders of the center in accordance with the approved list of the DRA Council of Ministers and have completed 4 years and more.

2. The discharge of troops and unit NCO's by the commander of large units and establishments in consideration of the observation of combat capability and the date of entry, should be carried out in such a way that 50 percent should be released in the 1st month of discharge as from 3 May to 3 June and the second 50 percent in the 2d month of discharge as from 3 June to 4 July.

3. In relation to the discharge, DRA male citizens who are 18 years of age, and reserved conscripts who are under the age of 40 and are not exempted from the military service, should be conscripted and called up for military service.